# John Hoeven



2 0 2 · 2 2 4 · 2 5 5 1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 13, 2016

Contact: Don Canton or Kami Capener don\_canton@hoeven.senate.gov

# HOEVEN LEGISLATION INCLUDED IN THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE NATION ACT

# For Lake Tschida, Patterson Lake and the Jamestown Reservoir

• Limits Permit Fee Increases: The Bureau of Reclamation recently increased permit fees at the reservoirs in North Dakota. Permit fees were set to almost double at Lake Tschida and more than double at Patterson Lake and the Jamestown Reservoir. The Hoeven language limits the total fee increase to no more than 33 percent over five years for all three.

#### For Lake Tschida

- Allows lake homes to continue to be used on lots, as well as additions and improvements previously made to the lot or lake home: Following a high water event in 2009 the Bureau of Reclamation said that all lake homes must be removed by 2021.
- Allows a permittee to bring a camper or RV onto the lot: If a lake home is flooded, Reclamation may require that it be removed, but the lot can still be used.
- Allows for permit transfers:
  - o If a permittee transfers title to a lake home then Reclamation shall issue a permit to the new home owner under the same terms as the previous permittee.
  - Previous Reclamation policy did not allow this; if a permit was transferred or sold then the lake home had to be removed. This prevented homeowners from recouping any of their investment.

### Requires anchoring under some circumstances:

- O Reclamation shall require compliance with appropriate anchoring requirements for summer homes and additions and other objects on the lots.
- These requirements will be determined by Reclamation after consultation with permittees.
- O These anchoring requirements will help ensure nothing gets in the water in the event of a flood to protect dam safety.

# Allows replacement, removal, and return:

- o Permittees may replace a lake home with another lake home.
- o If Permittees remove their lake homes home they can return them to the lot.
- O Previous Reclamation policy said that if a lake home is removed from a lot it could not be returned, and a permittee could only return a camper or RV to the lot.